

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution:

INTRODUCED BY: Montgomery County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Physician Dispensing and Anti-Steering

- 1 Whereas, Patient access to prescription drugs is critical to continuity and efficient care and
2 treatment; and
3
- 4 Whereas, Maryland licensed physicians are allowed to personally dispense prescription drugs if
5 they (1) have applied to the Maryland Board of Physicians (MBP); (2) demonstrated to the
6 satisfaction of MBP that the dispensing of prescription drugs or devices by the physician is in the
7 public interest; (3) have received a written permit from MBP to dispense prescription drugs or
8 devices, with the exception of starter dosages or samples without charge; and (4) posts a sign
9 conspicuously positioned and readable regarding the process for resolving incorrectly filled
10 prescriptions or includes written information regarding the process with each prescription
11 dispensed; and
12
- 13 Whereas, A physician may dispense Medicare-covered prescription or nonprescription drugs
14 where he or she is authorized by the State to dispense such drugs as part of his or her
15 physician's license; and
16
- 17 Whereas, Commercial payers have implemented policies that prevent and or limit physician
18 dispensing of specialty drugs to their patients; and
19
- 20 Whereas, Commercial payers are limiting access to their networks and pharmacy networks in particular to
21 the detriment of a physician's ability to dispense prescriptions to their patients; and
22
- 23 Whereas, the Maryland General Assembly has made patient access to care, including access to
24 prescriptions, a priority through the passage of legislation to address prior authorization and step therapy
25 requirements of the commercial payers,
26
- 27 Whereas, it is of similar importance that payers avoid policies that prevent patients from accessing
28 needed prescription drugs dispensed directly from their physician; therefore, be it
29
- 30 RESOLVED, that MedChi will directly advocate for the adoption of and support proposed
31 proposed state legislation that would allow for extending the current anti-steering statute to include
32 specialty drugs with respect to commercial insurers pharmacy networks thereby allowing specialty
33 prescription drugs to be dispensed by physicians.